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GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

September 9, 2015

Olin 304

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 PM.

Members Present: Brian Katz, Nathan Frank, Kelvin Mason, Lisa Seidlitz , Xiaowen Zhang, Jeff Ratliff-Crain, Mike Egan, Rob Elflin, Rachel Weiss, Sarah McDowell, Jaime Nordling, Mamata Marme

Absent: Lendol Calder, Caitlin Slone (SGA), Elizabeth Fetscher (SGA), Courtney Kampert (SGA)

Guests: Christina Myatt

I. Minutes

Motion- Mamata Marme moved **“to approve the minutes of the September 2nd meeting as submitted.”**

Nathan Frank seconded.

Discussion was opened. Two grammatical errors were noted. There was no other discussion and so a vote was taken.

MOTION PASSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 2ND MEETING WITH THE NOTED GRAMMATICAL CHANGES.

Christina Myatt will file the amended minutes with Mary Koski in Academic Affairs.

III. CONTINUING BUSINESS

A. Tabled Motions

1. Approval of FREN 212 for a G Suffix

The committee received a much more detailed outline of the course and its objectives. The committee noted its appreciation for the time the faculty member had taken to help us better understand the course and its content so that they could make a well informed decision.

There was no additional discussion and so a vote was taken.

Motion passed to approve FREN 212 for a G suffix.

2. Approval of LSFY 102 Pickpockets to Merchants

Additional information had been sought from the faculty member. This information was received too close to the meeting time which did not allow all committee members to read the new information.

Those who had read portions of the proposal still saw a problem with understanding who the “they say” was in the “they say, I say” model. While there was more detail, it still was not always clear.

A motion was made by Rob Elflin to table the approval of this proposal until everyone has the opportunity to read the new information provided. The motion was seconded by Xiaowen Zhang. A vote was taken.

Motion passed to table the approval of LSFY 102 Pickpockets to Merchants.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Drafted email from Gen Ed to faculty about Symposium Day

Brian Katz’s draft of the email was discussed. There were some questions about the personal pronouns. Also, it was commented that the audience seems ambiguous. This email is intended as a springboard for telling our stories. It will be sent to faculty and advisors to adapt and share. It was discussed that as this email points out the link between Symposium Day and our core curriculum and its importance to the campus as

a whole that all staff should be included in the email so that our colleagues at all levels of the organizational chart can share their enthusiasm and encourage students to attend.

2. Plan for going out to meet our constituencies

Gen Ed's goals for this academic year are the same as they have been for the past three years. We need to reach out and meet with folks and understand their concerns so that the things coming out of the committee are not just something devised behind closed doors.

The discussion was opened up with: What do we want to know? (The following are themes presented and not actual finalized questions to which committee will be seeking answers.)

- Language of the signature questions. Are they correct? What makes this LP what it is?
- What is the current take of those who were involved in the pilot?
- How do they see their course fitting in the core curriculum?
- How does your course show the correlation between core curriculum and SLOs?
- What should core curriculum be adding to ICC SLO?
- How can we help the campus as a whole understand gen Ed and their function?
- How much do you refer to other disciplines in your course? Do we model the connectivity we want students to have? How do you do this in your course? What are the obstacles in making this happen?
- What are the obstacles in teaching an LP? What strategies do you use to meet them?

The next question raised was: How are we going to do it? (Again, the following are themes and generalized discussion and not actual finalized approaches of the committee.)

It was thought to start with the LP pilot group and then branch out.

Open discussion of the objectives and goals of the committee ensued.

The list we have created is broad. We need to tackle singular issues, more of a themed approach than scattered.

There are two ways to approach. We can talk about the big picture and then tackle the issues. Or we can identify one thing as timely and critical and target that first to build a bigger picture.

We need to deal with LCs as they are a perennial problem. We can't operate this way every year. We seem to still want to have LCs in order to engage students in a way that incorporates different perspectives. With new models it appears that the original thinking behind LCs seems to be disappearing. Are there other ways to accomplish this goal? What about LSFY and another course?

The question was raised as to how long LCs have been around. 10-15 years.

What do we think LPs are supposed to accomplish?

What is LSFY and what are we doing?

Brian will work on drafting a set of questions based on this discussion.

We will spend next week figuring out how to accomplish getting the answers.

3. Update from Academic Affairs

None was given.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Imran Farooqi is Xiaowen's replacement on the gen Ed Committee for Winter and Spring terms this year while Xiaowen is on sabbatical.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Myatt